

## Next week in the Oireachtas



In the Dáil this week, the Residential Tenancies (Amendment) (No 2) Bill 2012 will be discussed at second stage. In the Seanad, statements will be made on the Action Plan for Jobs. The Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht Committee will meet next week to discuss environmental issues likely to arise during the Irish EU Presidency between January and June 2013. Mr Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for the Environment will attend.

## Minister Shatter announces extension of term of office of Garda Commissioner

The Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence, Alan Shatter TD, has proposed a two year extension of the term of office of the Garda Commissioner, Martin Callinan, moving Commissioner Callinan's retirement from August 2013 to

August 2015.

The proposed extension will require a change to the regulations governing Garda retirements, which currently set 60 as the mandatory retirement age for all members. Minister Shatter will return to Cabinet

in due course for formal approval of the necessary regulatory change which will technically implement the two year extension for Commissioner Callinan.

## Appointment process for designate Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission begins

The selection panel for the proposed new Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) has begun seeking applications for the role of Chief Commissioner (designate) and for the 14 Members (designate) of the Commission, it has been announced. The Chief Commissioner role will be full time and for a period of five years.

The selection panel, whose appointment by Justice Minister Alan Shatter has been formally approved by

the Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality, will make recommendations to Government for approval by the Oireachtas and appointment by the President. Legislation is currently being prepared by the Department of Justice, Defence and Equality to merge the Human Rights Commission and the Equality Authority.

The Chair of the panel, Ombudsman Emily O'Reilly said, "We will be

advertising these appointments as widely as possible to make sure that the greatest possible number of potential members, and a potential Chief Commissioner, will be fully aware of them." Additionally, the Public Appointments Service (PAS) will assist with advertising and with taking in applications, while all other steps of the process including shortlisting and interviews will be undertaken solely by the selection panel.

## CEO of the Marine Institute appointed to the European Research and Innovation Area Board

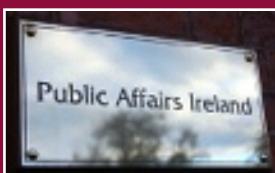
The CEO of the Marine Institute, Dr Peter Heffernan, has been appointed to the European Research and Innovation Area Board (ERIAB) by European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science Máire Geoghegan-Quinn.

The role of the board, which consists of 11 members, is to advise the Commissioner on issues

relating to the development of the European Research Area, including the €80bn Horizon 2020 Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020), and the Europe 2020 and Innovation Union Strategies. Members of the ERIAB are appointed for a four year term and the mandate of current ERIAB extends to February 2016.

Welcoming the appointment,

Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn said the "ERIAB will play a vital role in the development and optimisation of the European Research Area. The Marine Institute is the national agency responsible for Marine Research, Technology Development and Innovation (RTDI).



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## Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee established

Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Phil Hogan, TD has announced the establishment of a Local Electoral Area Boundary Committee.

Membership of the Committee includes: Gerry Kearney, former Secretary General in the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs who will act as Chairman; Joe Beirne, former Director of Services, Mayo County Council; Professor Gary Murphy, Head of the School of Law and Government at Dublin City University; Peter McCann, former Principal Officer in the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government; and Marian Vickers, Chief Executive, Northside Partnership Dublin.

The Committee will review and make

recommendations on local electoral area boundaries in the context of the results of census 2011 and the Action Programme for Effective Local Government published on October 16 2012. The Minister has asked the committee to report to him as soon as possible and in any event no later than May 31 2013.

According to Minister Hogan, the review will have a specific goal of achieving a much better balance and consistency in representational ratios, while taking particular account of factors such as the location of towns in the new municipal governance arrangement. The terms of reference for the review also ensure that there will be adequate representational and governance provision in lower population counties.

In carrying out its work, the Committee must have regard to the Action Programme for Effective Local Government and in particular the proposals for a new municipal district structure for local government in counties outside Dublin. The recommendations on local electoral areas will provide the basis for the configuration of municipal districts. The Committee will also have regard to the decision of Government to merge the councils of Limerick City and Limerick County, North Tipperary and South Tipperary and Waterford City and Waterford County and make recommendations accordingly.



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# Oireachtas Schedule: Week beginning November 19

## Dáil

November 20	November 21	November 22
<p><b>2pm</b> Questions (Minister for Education and Skills)</p> <p><b>3.15pm</b> Leaders Questions</p> <p><b>3.36pm</b> Questions (Taoiseach)</p> <p><b>4.36pm</b> Order of Business Motion re Referral to Committee of Supplementary Estimates Motion re Revision of Standing Orders for Private Bills Motion re Financial resolution (Credit Union Bill) (Department of Finance) National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Bill 2012 Order for Report, Report and Final Stages (Department of Justice and Equality) Electoral (Amendment) (Dail Constituencies) Bill 2012 Order for Second Stage and Second Stage (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government)</p> <p><b>5.06pm</b> Topical Issues</p> <p><b>7.30pm</b> Private Members Business</p>	<p><b>10.30am</b> Leaders Questions</p> <p><b>10.51am</b> Order of Business</p> <p>Statements Pre European Council (to conclude in 65 minutes)</p> <p>Houses of the Oireachtas Commission (Amendment) Bill 2012 (Seanad) Second Stage (Department Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht)</p> <p>Residential Tenancies (Amendment) (No 2) Bill 2012 Second Stage (Resumed) (Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government)</p> <p><b>1.30pm</b> <b>SOS</b></p> <p><b>2.30pm</b> Questions (Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform)</p> <p><b>3.45pm</b> Topical issues</p> <p><b>4.33pm</b> Morning Business Continued</p> <p><b>7.30pm</b> Private Members Business</p>	<p><b>10.30am</b> Leaders Questions</p> <p><b>10.51am</b> Order of Business</p> <p>Europol Bill 2012 Order for Report, Report and Final stages (Department of Justice and Equality)</p> <p>Residential Tenancies (Amendment) (No 2) Bill 2012 Second Stage (Resumed) (Department of the Environment Community and Local Government)</p> <p><b>1.30pm</b> Motion re A Framework for Junior Cycle (to conclude at 3.40pm if not previously concluded) (Department of Education)</p> <p><b>3.42pm</b> Topical Issues</p> <p><b>4.30pm</b> Questions (Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation)</p>

## Seanad

November 20	November 21	November 22
<p><b>2.30pm</b> Order of Business</p> <p>Motion regarding revision of Standing Orders [Private Business] - to be taken without debate. [Leas Cathaoirleach]</p> <p><b>3.45pm</b> Statements on the Action Plan for Jobs [Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation]</p> <p><b>5pm</b> Fiscal Responsibility Bill 2012 – Committee Stage [Department of Finance]</p>	<p><b>10.30am</b> Order of Business</p> <p><b>11.45am</b> Transport (Córalsompair Éireann and Subsidiary Companies Borrowings) Bill 2012 – Order for Second Stage and Second Stage [Minister of State for Public and Commuter Transport]</p> <p><b>2pm</b> Personal Insolvency Bill 2012 – Second Stage [Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence]</p> <p><b>5pm</b> Private Members Business - Employment Equality (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2012 [Senator Mary White]</p>	<p><b>10.30am</b> Order of Business</p> <p><b>11.45am</b> Civil Defence Bill 2012 - Committee and Remaining Stages [Minister of State at the Department of Defence]</p> <p><b>12.30pm</b> Fiscal Responsibility Bill 2012 – Report Stage [Department of Finance]</p>

## Committee Meetings

November 20	November 21	November 22
<p><b>2.15pm</b> <b>Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht</b> Committee Room 4, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> Environment issues likely to arise during the Irish EU Presidency (January to June 2013) [Mr Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for the Environment]</p>	<p><b>2pm</b> <b>Agriculture, Food and the Marine</b> Committee Room 3, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> (i) Engagement with Mr Brendan McKenna, Chairman Designate, Coillte; and (ii) 2013 Pre-Budget Submission [Representatives from Macra na Feirme]</p> <p><b>2pm</b> <b>Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht</b> Committee Room 4, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> Private Meeting</p> <p><b>2pm</b> <b>European Union Affairs</b> Committee Room 1, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> Exchange of views [European Union Affairs Committee of the Latvian Parliament]</p> <p><b>1.30pm</b> <b>Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation</b> Committee Room 2, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> (i) Scrutiny of EU legislative proposals (17 proposals); and (ii) Skills mismatch between industry requirements and the courses provided by the third level sector, with specific reference to Information Communications Technology (ICT), foreign languages and food production/technology [Higher Education Authority (HEA); Irish Universities Association (IUA); Institutes of Technology Ireland (IOTI); and Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT)]</p> <p><b>4pm</b> <b>Public Accounts</b> Committee Room 1, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> Private Meeting</p> <p><b>4.30pm</b> <b>Health and Children</b> Committee Room 2, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> (i) Pre European Council Briefing [Minister for Health]; and (ii) Update on Health Issues [Minister for Health; Minister of State with responsibility for Primary Care; Minister of State with responsibility for Disability, Equality, Mental Health and Older People; Mr Tony O'Brien, Director General Designate, Health Service Executive]</p>	<p><b>1.45pm</b> <b>Finance (Sub-Committee)</b> Committee Room 4, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> Credit Union Bill 2012 [Minister for Finance]</p> <p><b>3pm</b> <b>Foreign Affairs and Trade</b> Committee Room 1, Leinster House <b>AGENDA:</b> Session A: 3 p.m. Presentation on Democratic Republic of Congo [Mr Peadar King, Presenter and producer of the television series 'What in the World?']; and Session B: 5 p.m. EU Foreign Affairs Council meeting [An Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade]</p>

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